

Patent
09/574,688

Claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by US Patent 5,441,520 (Olsen et al.). In light of the foregoing claim amendments and cancellations, the rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent Claims 1, 10 and 17 have each been amended to include the limitation that the "identifier (or the connector that is "operable to identify" of Claim 10 or the "identifying step" of Claim 17) includes means for altering light received by a photosensor in the defibrillator, the altering of the light communicating identification information upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator.

Olsen is directed to a defibrillator patient connection system with automatic identification that relies upon using different circuitry in the paddles (Figure 2 showing "external paddles"), or cable plug assemblies (Figures 3 and 4 showing "internal paddles" and "adhesive patient pads", respectively), *to provide corresponding identifying analog voltage levels* to the base unit for identification.

Olsen is focused on "maintaining a simple interface between the base unit and paddle assemblies" (col. 1 lines 67-68) – "a supply voltage is provided by the base unit" ... and is carried to the external paddles circuitry (or the cable plug assembly) where it is attenuated to form a predetermined *identifying voltage level* (col. 2 lines 40-47).

Applicants respectfully submit that Olsen fails to teach or suggest "an identifier that includes means for altering light received by a photosensor in the defibrillator, the altering of the light communicating identification information upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator".

For at least the foregoing reason, Applicant respectfully submits that the teachings of Olsen do not anticipate amended independent Claims 1, 10 and 17 and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Dependent Claims 2-7, 11, 12 and 18-30 are believed to be clearly patentable for all of the reasons indicated above with respect to Claims 1, 10 and 17 from which they depend, and even further distinguish over the cited references by reciting additional limitations.

Patent
09/574,688

Newly submitted independent Claims 33-38 are directed to a connector that includes an identifier that communicates information to a defibrillator - the identifier including (respectively):

- 1) mechanical protrusions or depressions in the electrode connector configured to communicate identification information upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator;
- 2) electrical contact encoding configured to communicate identification information upon contact with interface electronics upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator;
- 3) inductive and capacitive circuit elements configured to communicate specific resonant electrical characteristics upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator by modifying an RF signal sent from an RF transmitter to an RF receiver both located near the electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator;
- 4) a specific resistance across sense connections to communicate specific resistance characteristics upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator;
- 5) capacitance encoding, the encoding configured to communicate identification information upon contact with interface electronics upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator; and
- 6) at least one magnet configured to communicate identification information upon contact with interface electronics upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator (independent Claim 39 also recites one or more magnets as its "identifier").

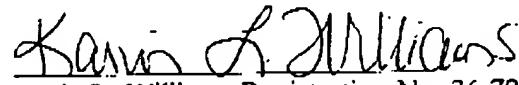
Applicants submit that Olsen fails to teach or suggest each of the specific identifiers recited in Claims 33-39 and therefore respectfully submits that these claims are patentable thereover.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are patentable over the art of record and prompt review and issuance is accordingly

Patent
09/574,688

requested. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

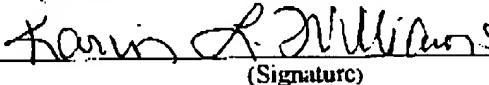
Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this document and any document referenced herein has been transmitted via facsimile to the US Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9302 on January 8, 2003.

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Patent
09/574,688

Version with markings to show changes made

In The Claims

Claims 8-9 and 13-16 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 10 and 17 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) An electrical medical electrode connector comprising:
a housing, wherein at least one end of the housing forms a cable connector;
an electrical conductor electrically connected to a socket within a shell of the cable
connector; and

an identifier disposed within the housing that communicates information to a
defibrillator,

wherein said identifier comprises means for altering light received by a
photosensor in the defibrillator, the altering of the light communicating identification
information upon insertion into an electrode connector receptacle of the defibrillator.

Patent
09/574,688

10. (Amended) A defibrillator comprising:

at least one electrode pad having an electrode pad type operable to contact a patient;

a medical electrode connector, connected to the defibrillator electrode pad on one end and the defibrillator on the other end, operable to identify the electrode pad type to the defibrillator;

a front-end circuit operation to be coupled to the electrode pad and to receive identification information from the electrode pad;

a shock delivery circuit coupled to the electrode pad; and

a processor coupled to the front-end and shock delivery circuits and operable to determine whether the patient is experiencing a shockable heart condition and to enable the shock-delivery circuit to deliver a shock to the patient via the electrode pads if the processor determines that the patient is experiencing a shockable heart condition,

wherein said medical electrode connector further comprises means for altering light received by a photosensor in the defibrillator, the altering of the light allowing said medical electrode connector to identify the electrode pad type to the defibrillator.

Patent
09/574,688

17. (Amended) A method of deploying a defibrillator comprising:
turning the defibrillator on;
attaching electrode pads to a patient;
inserting a cable connector associated with the electrode pads into a housing for receiving the cable connector within the defibrillator;
identifying the type of electrode pads based on an identifier within the cable connector associated with the electrode pads, wherein said identifying step further comprises the step of altering light received by a photosensor in the defibrillator, the altering of the light allowing the defibrillator to identify the type of electrode pads;
altering therapy delivered by the defibrillator based on the type of electrode pads identified; and
altering patient care instructions such as CPR based on the type of electrode pads identified.